

REMARKS

Claims 1 and 3-6, as amended, remain herein. Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the limitations of now-cancelled claim 10, and other limitations. Support for the amendment may be found throughout the specification (see, e.g., compound Alq at page 60; formula [4] at page 39; compounds ET1 and ET2 at page 60 of the specification).

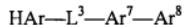
1. Claims 1, 3-6 and 10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph. Claim 1 has been amended to moot this rejection. Claim 1 now recites Alq3 (tris(8-quinolinolato)aluminum) instead of Alq. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection.

2. Claims 1, 3-6 and 10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. The Office Action states that electron mobility is dependent on the thickness of the layer and the applied voltage.

Applicants' claim 1 recites an electron mobility of the electron injecting layer greater than the electron mobility of tris(8-quinolinolato)aluminum. The electron mobility of the electron injecting layer must be higher than Alq3, all other parameters being equal. Thus, a specific value for the electron mobility of Alq3 need not be recited because the claim requires the electron mobility of the electron injecting layer to be only relatively higher than that of Alq3, all other parameters being equal. The electron mobility may be measured with a Time of Flight apparatus as discussed at page 57 of applicants' specification. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection.

3. Claim 1 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) over Fukuyama et al. U.S. Patent Application Publication 2001/0005021.

Applicants' claim 1 recites an organic electroluminescent device comprising: an emitting layer between a pair of electrodes that are an anode and a cathode, and an electron injecting layer and an electron-injection-suppressing layer between the cathode and the emitting layer, the electron-injection-suppressing layer regulating the amount of electrons supplied to the emitting layer, the electron mobility of the electron-injection-suppressing layer being smaller than the electron mobility of the electron injecting layer, the electron mobility of the electron injecting layer being greater than the electron mobility of tris(8-quinolinolato)aluminum, and the electron injecting layer comprising a compound represented by the following formula:



The Office Action did not consider applicants' claim limitation requiring the electron mobility of the electron injecting layer to be greater than the electron mobility of tris(8-quinolinolato)aluminum. Fukuyama does not disclose an organic electroluminescent device wherein the electron mobility of the electron injecting layer is greater than the electron mobility of tris(8-quinolinolato)aluminum. On the contrary, Fukuyama states that tris(8-quinolinol)aluminum (Alq) is preferred as the electron injection material (see Fukuyama at paragraph [0046]).

In addition, applicants' claim 1, as amended, incorporates the limitations of former claim 10 which was not subject to this rejection.

Thus, Fukuyama does not disclose all elements of applicants' claims and, therefore, it is not an adequate basis for rejection of applicants' claims under § 102(b). Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection.

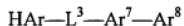
4. Claims 3-6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Fukuyama in view of Mori et al. U.S. Patent 5,281,489 or in view of Kawamura JP 2000-186094. Applicants' claim 1, as amended, incorporates the limitations of former claim 10 which was not subject to this rejection.

As discussed above, Fukuyama does not teach or suggest applicants' claimed organic electroluminescent device. Neither Mori nor Kawamura teaches or suggests what is missing from Fukuyama. Thus, none of Fukuyama, Mori, or Kawamura discloses all elements of applicants' claims, and none of these references discloses anything that would have suggested applicants' claimed invention to one of ordinary skill in the art. Further, there is no disclosure or teaching in any of Fukuyama, Mori, Kawamura, or otherwise in this record that would have suggested the desirability of combining any portions thereof effectively to anticipate or suggest applicants' presently claimed invention. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection.

5. Claim 10 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Fukuyama in view of Sato et al. U.S. Patent 6,893,743. The limitations of former claim 10 have been added to amended claim 1.

While this rejection is now moot, as discussed above, Fukuyama does not teach or suggest applicants' electron injecting layer having an electron mobility greater than the electron mobility of tris(8-quinolinolato)aluminum complex.

Sato does not teach or suggest what is missing from Fukuyama. Sato says nothing about applicants' claimed organic electroluminescent device wherein the electron mobility of the electron injecting layer is greater than the electron mobility of tris(8-quinolinolato)aluminum. In addition, Sato does not teach or suggest, as an electron injecting material, applicants' claimed electron injecting layer comprising a compound represented by the following formula:



Thus, neither Fukuyama nor Sato discloses all elements of applicants' claims, and neither of these references discloses anything that would have suggested applicants' claimed invention to one of ordinary skill in the art. Further, there is no disclosure or teaching in any of Fukuyama, Sato, or otherwise in this record that would have suggested the desirability of combining any portions thereof effectively to anticipate or suggest applicants' presently claimed invention.

Accordingly, all claims 1 and 3-6 are now fully in condition for allowance and a notice to that effect is respectfully requested. The PTO is hereby authorized to charge/credit any fee deficiencies or overpayments to Deposit Account No. 19-4293. If further amendments would place this application in even better condition for issue, the Examiner is invited to call applicant's undersigned attorney at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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